

CLAIMS

1. A method for operating a programmable washing machine comprising a laundry drum arranged rotatably inside a soap-solution container, which can be moved program-dependently with different speed profiles in both directions of rotation and comprising a real-time clock by means of which the user himself can determine the beginning or end of the washing process, and comprising an anti-crease operation incorporated after the wash and spin program sections for loosening the laundry in the drum, associated with an intermediate step in which the drum drive is driven with short and strong accelerating or braking pulses to bring about the detachment of a ring of laundry lying against the inner wall of the drum, formed during the spinning and in which the successful detachment of the laundry ring is monitored by means of comparative measurement data which are automatically determined by the program control system, characterised in that the subsequent anti-crease operation can be manipulated by the user.
2. The method according to claim 1, characterised in that the start and end time of the entire wash program including the anti-crease operation or the duration of the subsequent anti-crease operation can be freely selected by the user as well as the speed, duration of rotation and the time intervals between the rotation phases.
3. The method according to claim 1 or claim 2, characterised in that when programming the anti-crease program section the user is guided and supported by means of a display in the manner that

the program specifies to the user via the display values for the parameters speed, duration of rotation, duration of rest phases and total duration which are derived internally in the control system as a favourable average from a plurality of measurement data determined in comparative tests and stored in the memory, from the wash program selected by the user including the additionally input parameters and from the loading of the drum determined by the sensors, and that these default values can be changed upwardly or downwardly by the user.

4. The method according to any one of claims 1 to 3, characterised in that the values set by the user for the anti-crease operation are compared internally in the control system with the selected laundry care program including the additional parameters and are checked for compatibility, and that an incompatible value is indicated in the display.
5. The method according to claim 4, characterised in that an incompatible value is indicated by repeated flashing of the display indicator.
6. The method according to any one of the preceding claims characterised in that for monitoring the detachment of the laundry ring from the inner wall of the drum at the beginning of the anti-crease operation in the reversing phases, mechanical, acoustic and/or optical measurement data are recorded and these are compared with the corresponding measurement data which are obtained from the short analysis section incorporated before the wash program.

7. The method according to claim 6, characterised in that the comparative data are recorded during rotation of the laundry drum at feed speed and at a speed which was specified by the user for the anti-crease system.
8. The method according to claim 1, 2, 6 or 7, characterised in that when a laundry ring is identified, the laundry drum is briefly moved with high acceleration and braking pulses and that when a laundry ring is repeatedly registered, the laundry drum is moved with gradually increased accelerating and braking pulses to detach the laundry ring.